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ing cursive writing with a reed pen in sepia ink; so that S. Reinach infers the possibility of whole Minoan libraries—manuscripts written on palm-leaves, papyrus, parchment, and like perishable materials. Mr. Lang holds that, in an age when people could write and write freely, they did write down the epics; and that the epic texts existed in the Aegean script till Greece adapted to her own tongue the “Phœnician letters” as she did not later than the ninth or eighth century.

In the body of the book Mr. Lang deals first with “Loose Feudalism and the Over-Lord”, finding a clear consistency in the character and position of Agamemnon throughout; next with the archaeology of the poems (Cremation, Armour, Bronze and Iron, the Homeric House), in all of which he holds that Homer “gives us an harmonious picture of a single and peculiar age.” Yet he has to own that “the whole argument has no archaeological support. We may find Mycenaean corselets and greaves but they are not in cremation burials. No Homeric cairn with Homeric contents has ever been discovered; and, if we did find Homeric cairns, it appears from the poems that they would very seldom contain the arms of the dead.” Of the desultory chapters that follow perhaps the most notable is “The ‘Doloneia’”, in which a very fair case is made out for the much-maligned Tenth Iliad.

Altogether, from frontispiece (Algonquin Braves under Mycenaean Shields) to finis, the book is one for which every Homeric student may well be grateful.

J. IRVING MANATT.

#### BOOKS OF MEDIEVAL AND MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY

*Geschichte der Kriegskunst im Rahmen der politischen Geschichte.*

VON HANS DELBRÜCK. Dritter Teil: *Das Mittelalter*. (Berlin: Verlag von Georg Stilke. 1907. Pp. vi, 700.)

THE bulky volume in which Professor Delbrück carries his subject through the Middle Ages is printed in large, clear type, and is indexed and furnished with numerous sketch-maps. The author’s “framework” of political history is so generous as to make the book of interest to the general reader as well as to the critical scholar. He begins at once with Charles the Great and makes many interesting comparisons between the empire of 800 A. D. and of the Roman era, *e. g.*, the number of warriors, the method of service and of summons, equipment, maintenance, etc. The warrior under Charles must furnish an equipment equivalent in value to forty-five cows (a cow is reckoned at a solidus) or fifteen mares—the stock valuation of an entire village. The chapter on the conquest of the Saxons furnishes an interesting comparison with the Roman disaster in the Teutoberg Forest during the reign of Augustus. The author holds that the Roman frontier was, as it were, projected at one point, by Varus, into the wild German territory, leaving the Roman forces isolated. The opposite was true under Charles the Great, and his task was correspondingly less difficult. Thirty pages of the first book are given to Carolingian “Wehrpflicht-Capitularien”.

Book two deals with the perfected feudal state. It describes the blending of the feudal elements of the time of Charles into a systematic whole and the building of the states on the ruins of the Carolingian empire. Sixteen pages are given to the battle of the Lech, the author closing with the statement—in opposition to Nitzsch, Waitz, and Breslau—that this battle “macht Otto I zum grossen Feldherrn”. Other chapters take up the battles under Emperor Henry IV., the conquest of the Anglo-Saxons by the Normans, the Norman constitution of war as it was developed in England, the Norman state in Italy, and the situation in the East which led up to the Crusades.

The third book treats of the science of war as it developed at the height of the Middle Ages. Knighthood as a calling is a central thought. Its foreshadowings from the time of Tacitus are shown, its development into a military profession, and the transition to a mercenary system. Strategy is treated briefly. Then follows a lengthy discussion of the art of war as illustrated in city life—in the Italian communes under Frederick Barbarossa; in the administration of Frederick II., in such German cities as Köln and Strassburg—and in the conquest of Prussia by the Teutonic Knights. The subject of English archery is developed in connection with the conquest of Wales and Scotland by Edward I. This book closes with a description of some thirty single campaigns, battles, or skirmishes, illustrating the opinions advanced by the author.

In his “Vorwort” to book iv., dealing with the later Middle Ages, Professor Delbrück says that the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries bring a series of new phenomena in the conduct of war, which so modify the picture given thus far as to require a new division. These phenomena are not of such a sort as to make the transition from the old to the new forms a constant development. Nor do they stand to each other in an organic relation. They are rather “singularities”, which either disappear or first gain their true significance after centuries—as in the introduction of firearms or in the victories of an army of burgher and peasant “infantry-folk” over an army of knights. He proposes in the remaining chapters to show the particular phenomena of these centuries in their fundamental meaning and historical causality. By special examples he tries to show that the conduct of war in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries was essentially the same as in the thirteenth or twelfth centuries, or even earlier—that is, that the new phenomena were not yet incorporated as part of the military system. The only exception he makes is the Swiss, whose history he treats separately in his final chapters.

The first battle in which we get a glimpse of the new order of things is the battle of Courtray, in 1302. The changes are suggested in the title of the chapter: “Phalangen-Schlachten. Burgerwehren und Landsturm-Aufgebote.” Crécy, in 1346, is a type of a number of battles illustrating archers fighting in combination with dismounted knights. Others chapters follow on the Osman Empire; the Hussites; the Condottieri, Ordinance Companies, and Free-Shooters. The volume closes

with a section devoted to the Swiss, who first, in the author's view, reveal modern tendencies in the conduct of war, not as occasional eccentricities but as fixed principles. The early "Ritter" and "Fussvolk" are not what are now called cavalry and infantry. A true infantry is first developed by the Swiss. In the battles of Laupen, Sempach, Granson, Murten, and Nancy we have once more an infantry comparable to the phalanx and legion. The origin of firearms and their place in the development of the subject will be discussed in the next volume.

C. T. WYCKOFF.

*L'Église et l'Orient au Moyen Age: Les Croisades.* Par LOUIS BRÉHIER. (Paris: Librairie Victor Lecoffre. 1907 [1906]. Pp. xiii, 377.)

THIS is one of the volumes in the *Bibliothèque de l'Enseignement de l'Histoire Ecclésiastique*, begun in 1898. In order to judge the book fairly it is necessary to state the publishers' purpose. They are attempting to carry out the project of Pope Leo XIII., the composition of an "histoire ecclésiastique universelle mise au point des progrès de la critique de notre temps". The volumes are not intended as manuals for secondary schools or for the general public, but rather for advanced students.

As a whole M. Bréhier's work is successful. It is a useful summary, dealing mainly, as the subtitle indicates, with the Crusades. But the first three chapters give an account of the relations between the East and the West before the period of the Crusades. The author was especially competent to write this portion because of his studies on *Les Colonies d'Orientaux en Occident au Commencement du Moyen Age* and *Le Schisme Oriental du XI<sup>e</sup> Siècle* (1899). The volume ends with the fall of Constantinople in 1453. Viewed as a history of the Crusades, the most novel feature is the relatively large amount of space given to the account of the Christian missions in the East and the theoretical propagandists of the later centuries.

As this volume is intended as a guide for advanced students, it contains much bibliographical matter. The introduction is on "les sources et les instruments de travail". It contains some curious errors which produce a bad impression. The *Rolls Series* (p. xi) is credited with only ninety-eight volumes; the Société de l'Histoire de France with only eighty-five volumes; and there are other similar misstatements. In fact, this general bibliography needs to be carefully corrected and brought down to date. On the other hand, the bibliographies for the separate chapters are well selected and comparatively full. Occasionally (*e. g.*, pp. 88, 117, 183) German fragmentary editions of French and English sources are cited instead of the complete and more satisfactory French or English editions. Throughout the notes the proof-reading has been careless.

As a whole the facts concerning the Crusades are stated accurately.